



Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #59 – October 8, 2004
SEMA's Homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov

SEMA Area A Coordinator Vacancy

The Area A Coordinator position will be temporarily vacant until the position is filled. In the meantime if you need assistance, please contact the SEMA office in Jefferson City. During normal business hours please contact SEMA's Planning and Disaster Recovery Branch at 573-526-9122. After business hours in the event of an emergency, call the SEMA Duty Officer at 573-751-2748.

FEMA Publishes Mutual Aid Agreements Policy Directive

On September 22, 2004, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published Recovery Division Policy Directive #9523.6 "Mutual Aid Agreements for Public Assistance and Fire Management Assistance."

The document can be viewed on the SEMA website: sema.dps.mo.gov.

Professional Health Volunteer Registry Established

In the event of an emergency such as the Southwest Missouri tornadoes, an earthquake or a man-made event, health professionals would be critical to the response efforts. To avert a disaster within a disaster i.e. checking professional licenses on-site at a disaster, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and the Missouri Division of Professional Registry agreed to establish a web-based Volunteer Health Professional roster. This roster will include specific information on potential volunteers such as, region of residence, expertise, availability, and contact information. Health professionals can enroll as volunteers when they renew their professional health licenses. In an agreement with the Missouri State Board of Nursing, potential volunteer nurses can sign up as early as the spring of 2005 when they renew their license.

An Earthquake & a Volcano Added Interest to National Earthquake Conference

Emergency Managers, scientists, transportation, engineering, and business professionals gathered at the National Earthquake Conference in September in St. Louis. A field trip featuring local earthquake faulting, bridge and building retrofits kicked off the conference. Mother Nature decided to heighten media awareness with the Parkville, CA., earthquake and Mount St. Helens earthquakes and magma activity. Conference workshops focused on structural mitigation, non-structural mitigation, transportation/bridge retrofits, business continuity, financial recovery, real-time seismic tools and research.

A plenary session focused on mitigation. Boeing's presentation focused on nonstructural mitigation – placing critical computer equipment on base isolation units. The units were installed prior to the Nasqually earthquake in Washington – Boeing did not lose any critical computers. AutoZone designed their corporate headquarters (Memphis) to exceed life safety building standards. The building featured foundation platforms and a building sway counter design, which only added 5% to the total building construction costs. The seismic research and engineering for the Alaska pipeline was designed to withstand up to an 8.0 magnitude earthquake. Using "sliders" over a known fault, the pipeline didn't lose a drop of oil during and after a 7.9 magnitude last year.

SEMA's Fall Newsletter Posted to Homepage

The Fall Newsletters have been posted to the SEMA homepage: sema.dps.mo.gov. Featured articles include: Homeland Security Grants for Local Governments, Interoperable Communications, and Citizen Corps

Councils, National Preparedness Month Activities, and the WMD Radiological/Nuclear Awareness/Operations Course. The FY'04 Training Schedule is also in the newsletter.

Missouri Seismic Safety Officers Elected

The Missouri Seismic Safety Commission held their quarterly meeting in conjunction with the National Earthquake Conference. Susan Green (Cole County/Jefferson City EMD) was elected Chairwoman. Dianne Priest of Shield of Shelter (Columbia) was elected vice-chair. Mike Marx, Emergency Operations Manager with AmerenUE (St. Louis) was elected secretary.

Missouri's Earthquake Awareness Week Activities will be the first week on February. Phyllis Steckel will chair the activities, which are expected to include a business seminar, a MSSC meeting in St. Louis, and hands-on exhibits at the St. Louis Science Center on Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005.

ODP Announces Firefighter Grants (Rounds 16, 17, 18)

The Office of Domestic Preparedness announced 11 Missouri Fire Departments received FY'04 Firefighter assistance grants.

Departments receiving grants for Firefighting Vehicles are: Lesterville VFD (\$40,500); Memphis FD (\$162,000); Theodosia VFD (\$121,500);

Departments receiving grants for Operations and Firefighter Safety are: Calhoun FD (\$40,095); Chillicothe DES (\$105,885); Maplewood FD (\$24,300); Montauk RFD in Dent County (\$26,352); Pacific FPD (\$86,141); Richmond FD (\$88,830); Southern Metropolitan FPD in Raymore (\$74,840);

SEMA Training Classes Have Openings

The following free SEMA classes have openings. If you are interested in attending one of these classes please register on line www.sema.dps.mo.gov then click on the training link in the blue sidebar. You can register on line for any of the following classes:

10/12-13/04	Incident Command System for Law Enforcement	Camdenton
10/19-20/04	Incident Command System for Law Enforcement	CEMA St. Louis
10/27-28/04	Incident Command System – Intermediate	CEMA St. Louis
11/08-09/04	Incident Command System – Advanced	CEMA St Louis
11/08-10/04	Principles of Emergency Management	Jefferson City
11/30/04	Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings	CEMA St. Louis

FEMA Announces Additional FY'03 Firefighter Grants

Additional FY'03 funds became available to FEMA for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program as a result of fire departments realizing the saving money on equipment purchases. Five Missouri Fire Departments benefited from the additional grant money.

Departments receiving grants for Emergency Medical Services are: Fort Osage FPD (\$170,064).

Departments receiving grants for Operations and Firefighter Safety are: Cape Girardeau FD (\$314,102); Elsberry FPD (\$11,070); Mendon FPD (\$45,522); and West Overland EMS & FPD (\$76,032).

Hurricane Disaster Volunteer Relief Update

According to FEMA, 206 Missouri Citizen Corps volunteers were deployed to hurricane (Francis, Ivan and Jeanne) relief efforts in Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Some of the volunteers worked two-week assignments, while others are continuing to assist FEMA.

2 Missouri Metropolitan Medical Response Systems Receive Grants

The Department of Homeland Security announced 2 Missouri Metropolitan Medical Response System teams received FY'04 grants. There are three grant categories: Capability Focus Areas, Sustainment and Special Project Awards. The grants were awarded to: Mid-America Regional Council 911 Emergency Services (Kansas City) for \$650,000; and to East-West Gateway Coordinating Council (St. Louis) for \$400,000.

DHS Launches Office of Interoperability and Compatibility

The Office of Interoperability and Compatibility will help state and local public safety practitioners improve communications interoperability. The Office of Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC), part of the Science & Technology directorate, will oversee the wide range of public safety interoperability programs and efforts currently spread across Homeland Security. These programs address critical interoperability issues relating to public safety and emergency response, including communications, equipment, training, and other areas as needs are identified.

The OIC will: Support the creation of interoperability standards; Establish a comprehensive research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) program for improving public safety interoperability; Identify and certify all DHS programs that touch on interoperability; Coordinate grant guidance across all DHS grant making agencies that touch on public safety interoperability; Oversee the development and implementation of technical assistance for public safety interoperability; Conduct pilot demonstrations; Create an interagency interoperability coordination council; and Work with the new National Incident Management System (NIMS) Integration Center.

FEMA Announces Adjustments to Disaster Impact Indicator's and Small Project Grants

Effective 1 October 2004, the following will be used as one of the indicators that a disaster is of such a size that it might warrant Federal Assistance:

Statewide Per Capita Impact Indicator	\$ 1.14, per capita
Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator	\$ 2.84, per capita
The new maximum Small Project Grant is:	\$ 55,500.00

These changes apply to all disasters declared on or after 1 October 2004. Questions should be directed to the Disaster Recovery Section, (573) 526-9234.